

Message Text

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ACTION SP-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01
COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 IGA-02
MMO-01 IO-13 /107 W
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R 191009Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7325

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 24047

USOECD

FOR S/P LAKE FROM AMBASSADOR SALZMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, ECIN, XX, EAID
SUBJECT: NORTH/SOUTH STRATEGIES

REF: (A) STATE 191928 (B) PARIS 23466

1. I APPRECIATE YOUR INVITATION TO COMMENT ON THE S/P PROJECT ON N/S STRATEGIES, AND OUR VIEWS ON THE THREE ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN REF (A) FOLLOW BELOW:

2. INVOLVING EMERGING LDC'S CONSTRUCTIVELY IN MULTI-LATERAL INSTITUTIONS: IN RESPONSE TO INTEREST SHOWN LAST YEAR BY COLOMBIA IN JOINING OECD AND DISCUSSIONS AT THE OECD MINISTERIAL, THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING PROPOSALS FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE ORGANIZATION'S RELATIONS WITH NON-MEMBERS. SO FAR, LITTLE HAS BEEN DONE ON THE QUESTION, AND AN EARLY SUBSTANTIVE INPUT FROM THE U.S. WOULD HELP START THIS WORK OFF IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

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3. INVOLVING SOME MIDDLE AND HIGH INCOME DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE WORK OF THE OECD ON CERTAIN SPECIFIC ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE GRADUAL INTEGRATION OF SUCH LDC'S INTO THE MARKET-ORIENTED DEVELOPED WORLD, AND ALSO INCREASE THEIR RECOGNITION OF HOW THE DEVELOPED OECD COUNTRIES PER-

CEIVE THESE ISSUES. SPECIFICALLY, WE SHOULD SEEK INFORMAL NON-POLITICIZED DISCUSSION ON PARTICULAR SUBJECTS, RESTRICTED TO THOSE DC'S AND LDC'S WITH REAL INTERESTS AT STAKE IN SPECIFIC FUNCTIONAL AREAS. BUT THIS LDC INVOLVEMENT MUST BE STRUCTURED SO AS NOT TO DETRACT FROM OECD'S UNIQUE ABILITY TO SERVE AS A PLACE WHERE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES CAN GET TOGETHER TO CONSIDER COMMON PROBLEMS (IT BEING THE ONLY FORUM FOR DOING THIS). ALSO WE DON'T WISH TO SEE FURTHER EMPHASIS OF NORTH/SOUTH DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE OECD ITSELF. (SPAIN, PORTUGAL, GREECE AND TURKEY ALREADY LINE UP TOGETHER SOMETIMES ON SPECIFIC ISSUES OF THEIR COMMON CONCERN.) THUS THE PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF LDC INVOLVEMENT NEED CAREFUL EXAMINATION: SOME KIND OF AD HOC WORKSHOP/SEMINAR STRUCTURE WOULD CERTAINLY BE MORE USEFUL, FLEXIBLE AND FEASIBLE THAN ANY DIRECT ASSOCIATION OR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION. THE KIND OF MECHANISM AND THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED WOULD VARY DEPENDING ON THE SPECIFIC FUNCTIONAL AREA OF THE DISCUSSION. WE ENVISION THE OECD SECRETARIAT PROVIDING SOME OR ALL OF THE NECESSARY ANALYTICAL PREPARATION, MANAGEMENT OF MECHANICS, AND PROVISION OF PHYSICAL FACILITIES.

4. SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE AREAS WHERE SUCH AN APPROACH MIGHT BE USEFUL INCLUDE A) REVIEW OF THE CURRENT

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MACROECONOMIC OUTLOOK WITH CONCERNED LDC'S, ANALOGOUS TO WHAT IS DONE AMONG OECD MEMBERS THROUGH THE ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE; B) DEVELOPMENT OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ORIENTED TOWARD ASSISTING THE CONCERNED LDC'S IN MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS; C) COORDINATION OF EFFORTS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES WITH POTENTIAL LDC DONOR COUNTRIES (SOME ATTENTION IS ALREADY BEING GIVEN BY DAC AND THE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE TO RELATIONS WITH OPEC AID DONORS); D) SECTORAL CONSULTATIONS INVOLVING INDUSTRIES OF WORLDWIDE IMPORTANCE, SUCH AS STEEL; E) ENERGY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES (IEA HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES TO PERMIT LDC PARTICIPATION UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS IN R&D PROGRAMS AND IS CONSIDERING OTHER FORMS OF BRIDGE BUILDING WITH LDC'S, SUCH AS MIXED WORKSHOPS ON SELECTED ENERGY ISSUES.)

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5. FURTHER DEVELOPING THE AID STRATEGY OF BASIC HUMAN NEEDS: THE PRIORITY IMPORTANCE OF THIS TOPIC ON DAC'S PROGRAM HAS BEEN INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY AND THE PACE OF WORK ON IT STEPPED UP, LARGEMLY AS RESULT OF OUR EFFORTS BEGINNING WITH SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH AT THE RECENT OECD MINISTERIAL. THE TOPIC WILL BE TAKEN UP AT THE DAC PLENARY MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 8, AN EXPERTS MEETING ON OCTOBER 5-7, AND THE DAC HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON OCTOBER 26-27. MANY OTHER FORMAL AND INFORMAL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF THIS WIDE, COMPLEX TOPIC BY DAC AND THE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE DURING 1977-78.

6. BUT NOT ALL DAC MEMBERS ARE YET CONVINCED THAT BASIC HUMAN NEEDS DESERVE THE VERY HIGHEST PRIORITY WITHIN OECD. SOME EUROPEANS (E.G., FRANCE, SWITZERLAND, ITALY) ARE CONCERNED AT THE RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY SOME LDC'S AT ECOSOC AND CIEC. THUS WE SHOULD NOT PRESS TOO HARD TOO FAST. WE MUST TRY TO CONVINCE THEM THAT PRIORITY ATTENTION TO BASIC HUMAN

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NEEDS WILL BE HANDLED BY DAC MEMBERS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO FURTHER RATHER THAN DETRACT FROM EFFORTS TO IMPROVE

NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS. SEE OUR CABLE REF (B), TITLED "DAC AND BASIC HUMAN NEEDS," FOR DISCUSSION OF THIS POINT.

7. ENGAGING THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND INSTITUTIONS: SECRETARY VANCE'S PROPOSALS IN THIS AREA AT THE OECD MINISTERIAL RECEIVED A GENERALLY FAVORABLE RESPONSE. THE OECD DISCUSSIONS OF EAST/WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS, BEGUN IN 1976 AT U.S. INITIATIVE, OFFER A FRAMEWORK FOR MOVING TOWARD A CONSENSUS AMONG DC'S ON A CONCEPT OF THE EASTERN ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, AND HELPING TO ACHIEVE GREATER CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE EAST. THIS FALL THE OECD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION (XCSS) WILL CONDUCT A FIRST OVERALL REVIEW OF EAST/WEST QUESTIONS AND MAY MARK THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PHASE IN THIS WORK. THE U.S. SHOULD USE THIS XCSS MEETING TO FURTHER FOCUS THE ATTENTION OF OTHER MEMBERS ON THE EAST/SOUTH ISSUE AND GET WORK STARTED TO EXPLORE AND EVALUATE THE VARIOUS OPTIONS, AND THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF BRINGING THE EAST MORE DEEPLY INTO THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE. INCLUDED IN THESE OPTIONS MIGHT BE WHETHER AT SOME POINT IT WOULD MAKE SENSE TO CONSIDER A MECHANISM FOR LIAISON BETWEEN OECD DONORS AND THOSE OF THE EAST.

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